

If you're like me, you not only enjoy a good movie, but appreciate the value of great movies (like great literature) as teaching tools.

Towards that end, below please find two lists from the American Bar Association Journal (from 2008 and 2018 respectively) of their picks for the greatest legal movies of all time. Please note that these are *their* lists, picked using their methodology. The Arizona Supreme Court, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Education Services Division are not responsible for the content of these lists.

You may find these lists helpful for the development of educational opportunities, whether live trainings or independent learning.

However please be mindful of copyright laws. Consult the [AOC's Motion Picture Licensing Corporation list](#) of production companies covered for use under our license. Additionally, you may wish you consult competent legal authorities to see if your use falls under [Fair Use exceptions to US Copyright law](#).

ABA Journal, August 2008

The 25 greatest legal movies

1. To Kill a Mockingbird (1962) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/To_Kill_a_Mockingbird_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/To_Kill_a_Mockingbird_(film))
2. 12 Angry Men (1957) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/12_Angry_Men_\(1957_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/12_Angry_Men_(1957_film))
3. My Cousin Vinny (1992) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Cousin_Vinny
4. Anatomy of a Murder (1959) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anatomy_of_a_Murder
5. Inherit the Wind (1960) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inherit_the_Wind_\(1960_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inherit_the_Wind_(1960_film))
6. Witness for the Prosecution (1957)
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witness_for_the_Prosecution_\(1957_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witness_for_the_Prosecution_(1957_film))
7. Breaker Morant (1980) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breaker_Morant_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breaker_Morant_(film))
8. Philadelphia (1993) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia_(film))
9. Erin Brockovich (2000) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erin_Brockovich_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erin_Brockovich_(film))
10. The Verdict (1982) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Verdict
11. Presumed Innocent (1990) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presumed_Innocent_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presumed_Innocent_(film))
12. Judgment at Nuremberg (1961) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judgment_at_Nuremberg
13. A Man for All Seasons (1966)
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Man_for_All_Seasons_\(1966_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Man_for_All_Seasons_(1966_film))
14. A Few Good Men (1992) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Few_Good_Men
15. Chicago (2002) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago_\(2002_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago_(2002_film))
16. Kramer vs Kramer (1979) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kramer_vs._Kramer

17. The Paper Chase (1973) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Paper_Chase_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Paper_Chase_(film))
18. Reversal of Fortune (1990) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reversal_of_Fortune
19. Compulsion (1959) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compulsion_\(1959_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compulsion_(1959_film))
20. And Justice for All (1979) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/...And_Justice_for_All_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/...And_Justice_for_All_(film))
21. In the Name of the Father (1993) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_the_Name_of_the_Father_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_the_Name_of_the_Father_(film))
22. A Civil Action (1998) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Civil_Action_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Civil_Action_(film))
23. Young Mr. Lincoln (1939) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Young_Mr._Lincoln
24. Amistad (1997) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amistad_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amistad_(film))
25. Miracle on 34th Street (1947) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miracle_on_34th_Street

***ABA Journal*, August 2018**

The 25 greatest legal movies: Expanding the Boundaries

1. Spotlight (2015) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spotlight_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spotlight_(film))
2. Marshall (2017) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshall_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshall_(film))
3. Loving (2016) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving_\(2016_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving_(2016_film))
4. The Post (2017) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Post_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Post_(film))
5. The Lincoln Lawyer (2011) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lincoln_Lawyer_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lincoln_Lawyer_(film))
6. RBG (2018) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RBG_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RBG_(film))
7. Criminal Court (1946) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal_Court
8. Primal Fear (1996) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primal_Fear_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primal_Fear_(film))
9. Legally Blonde (2001) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legally_Blonde
10. Adams's Rib (1949) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam%27s_Rib
11. Michael Clayton (2007) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Clayton_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Clayton_(film))
12. (The remaining 14 selections on the updated list are included on the original list)